

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A communications device connected to a network with a client communications device and a destination ~~an~~ address modification device modifying a destination address of data transmitted from the client communications device to an address of another communications device, comprising:

a transmitting and receiving unit ~~transmitting and receiving communications data~~ with a destination address modified by the destination address modification device and transmitting response data in response to the communications data; and

a source address modification unit modifying a source address of the response data in response to the communications data with the an-destination address modified by the destination address modification device, to an address of a communication device that is an original destination~~original destination address of the communications data~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The A-communications device according to claim 1, wherein:

the communications device comprises ~~connected to a network with an address modification device~~, comprising:

~~a transmitting and receiving unit transmitting and receiving communications data;~~

an acquisition unit obtaining destination address modification information transmitted from the destination address modification device; and

the a-source address modification unit modifies ~~modifying a the~~ source address of the response data to the address of the communication device that is the original destination, based on the destination address modification information obtained by the acquisition unit~~of data in~~

~~response to the communications data with an address modified by the address modification device based on the address modification information.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The A-communications device according to claim 1 wherein:  
the communication device comprises a connected to a network with an address  
modification device, comprising:

~~a transmitting and receiving unit transmitting and receiving communications data;~~

a request unit requesting the destination address modification device to transmit  
destination address modification information of the communications data; and wherein

the a source address modification unit modifies modifying a the source address of the  
response data to the address of the communication device that is the original destination, based  
on the destination address modification information transmitted from the destination address  
modification device~~modification information transmitted from the address modification device.~~

4. (Original) The communications device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of communications processing units; and

a sorting unit assigning a process to the relevant communications processing unit of the  
plurality of communications processing units based on identification information added to the  
communications data.

5. (Original) The communications device according to claim 4, wherein said sorting unit  
assigns a process to the relevant communications processing unit of the plurality of

communications processing units based on information designated by a communications port included in the communications data.

6. (Currently Amended) An address modification device connected to a network with a communication device, comprising:

a transmitting and receiving unit ~~transmitting and receiving communications data with a destination address modified and transmitting response data in response to the communications data;~~

a destination address modification unit modifying a destination address of the communications data transmitted from the a communications device to an address of another communications device; and

a modification unit modifying a source address of the response data in response to the communications data with the destination address modified by the destination address modification unit, to an address of a communication that is an original destination information ~~generating unit enabling to transmit and transmitting address modification information to a communications device with a modified address.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The An address modification device of claims 6, wherein:  
~~, comprising:~~

~~a transmitting and receiving unit transmitting and receiving communications data;~~

~~a destination address modification unit modifying a destination address of transmission data transmitted from a communications device; and~~

~~a modification information generating unit enabling to transmit the modification unit~~  
transmits address modification information of the communications data to the relevant communications device when receiving a send request for the address modification information.

8. (Currently Amended) The address modification device according to claim 6, wherein  
~~said destination address modification unit modifies the destination address of the~~  
~~communications data transmitted from a communications device connected to a network and~~  
said ~~modification information generating unit~~ transmits information indicating the destination address before modification as modification information.

9. (Currently Amended) The address modification device according to claim 6, wherein  
said modification unit ~~modification information generating unit~~ adds information indicating the destination address before modification to a data section of the communications data and transmits the data.

10. (Currently Amended) A communications method in a network comprised of ~~an~~  
destination address modification device and a plurality of communications devices, comprising;  
receiving communications data with a destination address modified by the destination  
address modification device;  
transmitting response data in response to the communication data; and  
modifying a source address of the response data in response to the communications data  
transmission with the destination address modified by the destination address modification  
device, data with an address modified by the address modification device to an address of a

~~communications device that is an original destination address of the transmission data and transmitting the response data.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of A  
~~communications method in a network comprised of an address modification device and a~~  
~~plurality of communications devices, comprising:~~

requesting the destination address modification device to transmit address modification  
information; and

receiving the destination address modification information from the destination address  
modification device and modifying a source address of data in response to communications data  
with an address modified by the destination address modification device base on the address  
modification information.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of:  
~~A~~  
~~communications method in a network comprised of an address modification device and a~~  
~~plurality of communications devices, comprising:~~

~~transmitting and receiving communications data and obtaining address modification~~  
~~information transmitted from the address modification device; and~~

modifying a source address of response data to the source of the communications data  
with an destination address modified by the destination address modification device based on the  
modification information ~~and transmitting the response data.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable communications control program performing control of communications in a network comprised of an destination address modification device and a plurality of communications devices to enable a computer to implement functions, the functions comprising:

receiving communications data with a destination address modified by the destination address modification device; transmitting and receiving communications data; and

transmitting response data in response to the communications data; and

modifying a source address of the response data to the communications data transmission with ~~an~~ the destination address modified by the destination address modification device to an address of a communications device that is an original destination and transmitting the data.

14. (Currently Amended) The A computer-readable communications control program of claim 13 further comprising the functions of:~~for performing control of communications in a network comprised of an address modification device and a plurality of communications devices to enable a computer to implement functions, the functions comprising:~~

~~transmitting and receiving communications data;~~

requesting the destination address modification device to transmit address modification information; and

modifying a source address of response to the source of the communications data with the destination address modified by the destination modification device based on modification information ~~transmitted from the address modification device.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for enabling a computer to implement functions, the functions comprising:

receiving communications data with a destination address modified by a destination address modification device; transmitting and receiving communications data; and

transmitting response data in response to the communications data; and

modifying a source address of the response data to the communications data transmission with ~~an~~ the destination address modified by the destination address modification device to an address of a communications device that is an original destination ~~and transmitting the response data~~

16. A communications system in which an address modification device for modifying an address of communications data received from another communications device and a plurality of communications devices for transmitting and receiving data in response to the communications data with a modified address are connected through a network, comprising:

an address modification device, further comprising:

a transmitting and receiving unit receiving communications data with a destination address modified and transmitting response data in response to the communications data; and

a destination address modification unit modifying an address of the communications data, and each of a plurality of communications devices to an address of another communications device; further comprising:

~~transmitting and receiving communications data; and~~

a source address modification unit modifying a source address of the response data to the address of the communication device that is the original destination based on the destination

address modification information transmitted from the destination address modification device  
~~communications data with an address modified by the address modification device to an original~~  
~~destination address of the communications data.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A communications system in which an address modification device for modifying an address of communications data received from another communications device and a plurality of communications devices for transmitting and receiving data in response to the communications data with a modified address are connected through a network, comprising:

an address modification device, comprising:

a transmitting and receiving unit ~~transmitting and receiving~~ communications data  
with a destination address modified and transmitting response data in response to the  
communications data;

a destination address modification unit modifying ~~an~~ a destination address of the  
communications data transmitted from the a-communications device to an address of another  
communications device; and

a modification unit modifying a source address of the response data in response to the  
communications data with the destination address modified by the destination address  
modification unit, to an address of a communication that is an original destination information  
~~generating unit generating~~ and transmitting address modification information to a  
communications device with a modified address, and

each of a plurality of communications devices, comprising:

~~a transmitting and receiving unit transmitting and receiving communications data;~~



an acquisition unit obtaining destination address modification information transmitted from the destination address modification device; and

a source address modification unit modifying a source address of the response data to the address of the communication device that is the original destination, based on the destination address modification information obtained by the acquisition unit~~the communications data with an address modified by the address modification device based on the address modification information.~~